



COLORADO SPRINGS,
COLORADO

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November 1996



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 16521
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80935

1 Renew before 12/31/96
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Ø BEAT



Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association Officers and Directors

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*This Officer/Director is completing the second year of the two-year term to which they were elected.

The Ø-Beat is published monthly in the interest of the members of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc., PO Box 16521, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80935. For membership and subscription information see the last page of this publication. Monthly advertising rates: Full page, \$48; Half page, \$24; Quarter page, \$12; Business card, \$6. These rates are billed quarterly. Send your ad requests and payments to: PPRAA, PO Box 16521, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80935.

Check out the PPRAA page on the World Wide Web! Go to: <http://rainbow.rmil.com/~mugele/ppraa/>

Deadline for submission of articles or advertisements is the 20th of each month. Submissions are accepted in any form. Articles should be sent directly to the Ø-Beat Editor (email to jboyes@us.oracle.com is preferred.) Permission is granted to reprint articles provided credit is given to both the author and this publication.

License Exams

License examinations sponsored by the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association are held on the 2nd Saturday of February, April, June, August, October, and December.

Testing takes place at 9 A.M. at:

Denver Technical College
225 South Union
Colorado Springs

Everyone is seated on a walk-in basis. Those wishing to take an exam should bring the following items:

1. \$6.05 (preferably a check/money order made out to ARRL/VEC) for any exam other than element 1A or 2.
2. Picture identification.
3. A copy of your current amateur radio license, and/or a copy of any examination credit you have, as well as the signed original. **We keep the copies.**
4. A pen, pencils, and a calculator if you need one.

If you have any questions, call Erik Mugele, KGØXE at 596-5345. Please do not call Denver Technical College.

Committee Chairpersons/Contacts

Ø-Beat Editor	Jeff Boyes	NØJLH	577-6211
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Publicity	Aaron Pelouze	KD6FLM	282-9715
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Swapfest '97	Carlos Caro	KBØREI	632-1569
Technical Instruction	Al Bailey	ADØZ	597-8514
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VE Testing	Erik Mugele	KGØXE	596-5345

Other Organizational Liaisons

ARES Liaison	Mike Stansberry	KØTER	636-1290
CCARC Liaison			
RACES Liaison	Larry Dunn	N9HSW	481-0369

Reminder — General Membership Meeting

The next General Membership Meeting of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association will be on the second Wednesday of this month at the Disabled American Veterans Hall, 6880 Palmer Park Blvd. The meeting will start at 7 PM.

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PPRAA General Membership Meeting Minutes October 9, 1996

The General Membership meeting was opened at 1900 hrs by the president Rob Roller WB7WHT upon determining a quorum of the membership was present. Members and guests introduced themselves. The Treasurer's report was given by Mary, KBØSHP. The minutes of the last General Membership meeting as published in *Ø-Beat* were approved.

There were no committee reports.

There was no old business.

New Business:

Aaron, KD6FLM, announced that he had completed the work on the Club Information Flyers.

Larry, N9HSW, gave a report on the upcoming AREAS SET to be held on Saturday the 12th in the area of Monument. This year the RACES group will operate Amateur TV to demonstrate the additional capabilities of Amateur Radio. Larry then introduced Craig, KBØMXQ, who gave a tongue in cheek weather briefing for the SET.

Jeff, NØWPA announced the appointment of Doug, N4TGO, as the new Severe Weather Net Manager, to replace Craig, KBØMXQ, who will be leaving the area.

Jeff, NØWPA, presented Craig, KBØMXQ, with a Public Service Award for his work as AEC.

Tom, NØNTX, announced that the PPRAA, WAØVTU, scored 5th of 25 in the Field Day event. Bob, WL7RV displayed the award he received for a Public Service event.

Rosie, WAØMNL, announced the next meeting of the Lunch Bunch.

Ron, NKØP, after a very inspired introduction, presented the Hammy award to Bill, NØNJX.

Doug, WBØMHP, announced the next Fox Hunt to be held on Sunday the 13th at 2:00 PM.

Break: 7:36

Steve, KBØMMY, gave a report on a traffic accident he witnessed, and with the help of Jake, NØCYR, was able to get help to the location in a very short time (Good job Steve and Jake).

Rob, WBØWHT, read the following proposed Bylaw changes, presented to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES:

Add Section 12. Asset Committee. "The board of Directors shall appoint an asset custodian, who shall be the Asset Committee Chair, and who is responsible for, but not limited to, accounting for, warehousing of, issuing of, returning of all tangible assets of the association. The Asset Committee and the custodian shall prepare for and coordinate an annual physical inventory to be performed within 45 days following each annual meeting at

which the general election is held. Not less than one outgoing and one incoming officers shall be signatory witnesses of the physical inventory. The Asset Committee shall report any losses or non-functional conditions of any asset immediately to the directors, who shall evaluate the circumstances of such loss, and be empowered to take appropriate action." Motion approved by show of hands with change "two outgoing and two incoming" to "one outgoing and one incoming"

ARTICLE III BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Add to Section 3. Removal from Office.

"A member in good standing for the purpose of this section is a voting member not currently a director in their own right." Motion approved by show of hands with change "full" to "voting" member.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS:

Amend Section 1. Number, eligibility and term of office. Motion failed by show of hands.

ARTICLE III BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Add to Section 2, Election and term of office of director, first paragraph, ", with their term beginning at the end of the annual meeting in which they are elected." Motion approved by show of hands.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS:

Add to Section 1, Number, Eligibility and term of office. "Officers shall serve for a period of

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one year, with their term beginning at the end of the annual meeting in which they are elected."

Motion approved by show of hands.

Next was the election of Officers and Directors.

President: Jeff Boyes, NØJLH

Vice President: Aaron Pelouze, KD6FLM

Treasurer: Rob Roller, WB7WHT

Secretary: Bob Antion, WL7RV

Board:

(2 year term) Mark Richardson, NØEPF

(1 year term) Dennis Major, KBØSXC

Greg Tarcza, WA2OOD

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Les, KCØNC, acting Secretary.

PPRAA Board Meeting Minutes October 14, 1996

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Jeff Boyes, NØJLH, PPRAA President.

Introductions and brief biographies of each new officer and board member were made.

Rob Roller, club treasurer brought up the subject of a club budget. It was agreed that he would work on a budget and we would further discuss this at a future board meeting.

Rob Roller also brought up the subject of the Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air, which is scheduled for the weekend of 19 October. He was looking for some help to run the possible two stations set up in Colorado Springs. He agreed to send an email to all to solicit volunteers.

Standing Committee membership was discussed. Jeff Boyes agreed to contact current committee chairpersons and determine their willingness to continue on those committees. It was also determined that we need chairpersons for the Auditing and the CCARC committees. This will be discussed at the next General Membership meeting.

A plan for the annual Christmas Party was discussed. It was decided that the party will take place during the regularly scheduled night for the club meeting. The DAV is completely booked for the rest of the month. Decorations and entertainment are being looked into.

The subject of food donations to the DAV was brought up. It was suggested that individuals who bring in a food item for donation will receive one door prize ticket per item donated. The donations should be taken to Aaron, who will distribute the tickets.

The club bylaws were a topic of discussion. It was suggested that we go through the bylaws and clean up the grammar and misspellings. Definitions of Full Member, Associate Member, and

Family Member were discussed also. The board decided to request input from the membership on the above definitions with an eye towards making them clearer. If you have any input, please give it to one of the club officers/board members.

The club currently has only 3 individuals who are trained and licensed to conduct a raffle. It was suggested that some more members receive the training and be licensed to conduct the raffle. This would preclude difficulties if none of the three were available to conduct the yearly raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Antion, Club Secretary



Dits and Bits

For Sale:

Magazines. 1979-1989 QST, CQ, and 73. Full Sets. Negotiable price. Jeff Smith, 687-6746.

For Sale:

Azden PC-5000 2M mobile w/tone, 5-25 watt, \$175. With manual.

Kenwood TM-2570A 2M mobile w/tone, \$200. With manual.

Drake TR-72 2M Crystaled for 2M and packet. 10 watts. \$65.

George, WBØDUM. 495-3983

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El Paso County HF Roundtable

Sunday evenings just after the El Paso County RACES 7:30 PM (local) HF net, on 28.385 mHz.

Everyone is invited to check in.

Field Day '96 Results Jeff Ryan, NØWPA

Congrats to the combined PPRAA/MARC Field Day station. Out of 600 stations operating in class 2A, the PPRAA/MARC station (operating callsigns WAØVTU and NØSFP) placed 41st overall, 1st in Colorado and 1st in the Rocky Mountain Division. A splendid effort considering the primary focus was to have fun and enjoy the mountains. You'll find the score listed on page 102 of the November issue of QST.



OM/YL LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch will get together for lunch and visiting Thursday, November 21st, Noon time, at McKay's Family Steakhouse, 550 S. Academy in Colorado Springs. They have a buffet as well as menu items.

Rosie Calaway, WAØMNL
471-9965

Elmer's Etiquette – How's your EQ?

I just couldn't help notice that etiquette on the ham bands is deteriorating. So, in thinking about the spirit of Amateur Radio and the process of Elmering, this Elmer decided to start a column about amateur radio etiquette.

I would like to test your EQ (etiquette quotient) by describing real-life situations heard on the bands and ask multiple choice type questions.

I will try to share one question a month.

Keep in mind the elmering process is to help but not openly criticize. Even though these are real-life happenings, I won't mention names. The spirit is to educate, not devastate. If you would like to share a circumstance, please send it to Elmer's Etiquette in care of the Ø-Beat editor, who will see to it I receive it.

So, here is this month's question.

Q. You drive a BMW, have license plates issued by a state that borders an ocean and arrive at a local Colorado club's swapfest. Etiquette dictates you:

1. Park in a very irregular position because you are special.

2. Yell at the swapfest personnel when they politely ask you to line your car up with the others so the lane isn't blocked.

3. Swear at the swapfest personnel when they ask you again and accuse them of being gospel pounders.

4. None of the above.

My answer would be number 4, what's yours?

Until Next Month...

73, Elmer

Editor's Notes Jeff Boyes, NØJLH

Remember: If you bring a non-perishable food item to the meeting to donate to Care And Share, you get one free raffle ticket. (You did read the Board Meeting Minutes, didn't you?)

Other news of note received via email:

1. The next License classes are currently being planned. Call either Al Bailey or Linda Hedges (contact information is listed on page 2 of this issue) for additional information. (Thanks Rob!)
2. The backup US Atomic Clock is here in the 719 area code, toll free at 567-6742. (Thanks to WØRW for this tip.)

**Message from the President
Jeff Boyes, NØJLH**

As I write this, I am reminded of several past Presidents of this club. I know that I have some big shoes to fill, and I'll do my best. If you have any suggestions or criticisms, PLEASE bring them to any board member, drop it in the mail, or send it via email. My email address is jboyes@us.oracle.com.

Also, I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank Rob Roller, WB7WHT, for all the hard work this past year, and for all his assistance during this transition. (Thanks, Rob!) Until next month...

**What? No Reflections?
Doug Moloney, WBØMHP**

October's transmitter hunt was unique for Colorado Springs because none of the hunters observed any reflections of the hidden transmitter's signal. Some of the hunters thought the fox was quite far away because of the weak signal at the starting point.

Bill Petty, NØNJX, this month's fox provided a very challenging hunt. Even though he was about 1.75 miles line-of-sight from the starting point, a TV antenna attenuator and a "stubby duck" connected to an HT provided enough attenuation that there were virtually no reflections observed.

Another twist was that Bill was hiding on a street that the hunters could see from several streets but were not connected. Most of the hunters got to within several hundred yards of Bill on these streets but had to drive almost three-fourths of a mile or more to get to him.

Once we arrived, Bill explained he was not holding the hidden transmitter, but the hidden transmitter must still be found using any technique we could to find a transmitter within a few tens of feet but visually well hidden. Hunting were Les, KCØNC and Jody, KAØROZ, Dave, NØUVR, Greg, WA2OOD, and myself, WBØMHP.

Don't forget next month's transmitter hunt. Bill is suggesting a triangulation method of hunting which will give us practice for finding non-authorized transmitters, interference, and balloon payloads. Everyone is welcome whether or not you have ever hunted before. Most of the hunters have room for anyone wanting to go along and see how it's done. Weather permitting we'll be hot on the trail again on November 16th.

73 es see you then!

**Message from the
Outgoing President
Rob Roller, WB7WHT**

[Note: This should have ran last month. Rob makes some important points that need to be read...Ed.]

WB7 We Have Talent!

This will be the second time that I've stated that we have talent in this club. If you've noticed, I've started each of my columns with some phonetics for my call, and this particular phonetic was used last November after I was elected president. Well, this year as president has come and gone, and now it's time to let some new talent take over. Our next meeting is the PPRAA annual meeting, meaning that it's the meeting that we conduct elections for new officers. Also four of our board members complete their two-year terms and the other four (including myself) are at the halfway point of their term on the board. So the annual meeting is an important one because we'll redefine the club's board.

Our club has changed somewhat in the past year. We're at about 240 members right now. That's not a significant change over the past year, but there are quite a few new amateurs in the club. I've also wanted to do a couple of things for the club; some of them were accomplished and some weren't. Another good hamfest has come and gone, and we now have a new hamfest chairman, a new historian, a new equipment custodian and a

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new publicity chairman. I've wanted to find ways to get younger members involved but didn't get too far with that, mostly because there aren't enough hours in a day to do everything. And with being in school until the end of June there wasn't enough time available away from classes to get done what I wanted to do. I'd still like to see the club to get involved with the K-12 schools if possible. The anniversary issue of the Ø-Beat is due out this fall and that could provide some additional funds to go back into the club.

The club has been wired. To the Internet, that is. We have a web page and we've begun using Internet e-mail as much as possible to follow up on some issues. Each board member has an Internet mail account and we've used it quite extensively to stay in touch in between meetings. No longer does the board play telephone tag. I've personally been using it to post a monthly recap of the club meetings to everyone for which I have an e-mail address, (send me yours if you haven't been getting the recaps) and for other time-sensitive matters when they can't wait until the next club meeting.

Erik Mugele KGØXE has posted the monthly recaps to the web page. Jeff Boyes is using e-mail to accept articles for the Ø-Beat. We've also updated the membership application to include your e-mail address if you have one. It's the future, no matter how you ignore it, and I'd like to see its use continue.

Amateur radio in general has changed a little bit over the past

year and is looking forward to some changes. Who knows where this RF safety issue is going? There's still a lot of debate about what is and is not an environmental hazard when it comes to RF. The FCC has voided covenant clauses prohibiting TV antennas. It's possible that with the RF safety issue and indoor antennas being a potential hazard that the FCC makes void covenant clauses restricting transmitting antennas so we can get those antennas up where they aren't a hazard. Wouldn't that be nice

Currently, the club is planning a few neat things. Let's see. We have the anniversary Ø-Beat issue, the December Christmas Party, the library exhibit. There's a possibility of working with the Boy Scouts a little more permanently than just the annual Jamboree on the Air.

Looking forward, I'd like to see the PPRAA continue to grow as new amateurs become licensed. I'd like the PPRAA to remain an active part of the community through its help at public service events and as an active club in amateur events and education, like the classes at the Tesla Society, Field Day and the annual library exhibit. And, of course, let's continue to have lots of fun at our monthly meetings and the Christmas Party.

Finally I want to say "Thanks!" to everyone on the board and in the club for your support. I've enjoyed my term as president and working with the everyone in the club. It's been interesting to see what goes on behind the scenes of the club. I

think you'd agree that it's amazing just what goes into running a relatively small organization like the PPRAA, and I hope that we continue to have motivated folks that want to see what goes on and be a part of the future of the club. We've got quite a few new members this year with many of you being brand new amateurs. It sure helps to have fresh and creative ideas for the club, so c'mon down to the next meeting and get nominated!

Christmas Party Update Renay Boyes, KAØROY

Christmas is coming....The Christmas party is set for Wednesday, December 11, 1996 (our regular meeting night) at 7 PM. The President promises a very short, if any, meeting.

We are going to have dinner and dancing with a DJ and hopefully a sit down dinner. I will have more details at the meeting. I have yet to talk to the lady at the DAV on all of the details, but I will.

If you have any Christmas decorations or if you would be willing to help decorate the DAV hall, I need your help.

If you have any other suggestions please let me know. HO HO HO ☺.

Email me at rmboyes@aol.com, or call 577-6211. 73, Renay.

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The ARRL Letter Electronic Update October 18, 1996

IN THIS UPDATE...

- Congress puts a piece of the 2.3-GHz ham band up for bid
- Special notice: ARRL election ballots
- Solar activity flat--Minimum could be at hand

CONGRESS DIRECTS FCC TO PUT 2.3 GHZ SPECTRUM UP FOR BID

Possibly for the first time ever, Congress has directed the reallocation of specific frequencies, including 5 MHz that Amateur Radio shares with government services between 2305 and 2310 MHz. During its final hours before adjournment, the 104th Congress approved a provision as part of a much larger appropriations bill that directs the FCC to put 30 MHz of spectrum in the 2.3-GHz region up for competitive auction to help balance the budget.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) had identified for reallocation the amateur segments 2300-2310 MHz and 2390-2400 MHz in May 1994, so reallocation of part of that subband came as no surprise (see QST, Jul 94, p 85, and Aug 94, p 72). Last year, hams scored a major victory by getting a primary allocation on the subbands 2390-2400 MHz and 2402-2417 MHz.

The recent congressional action will reallocate 2305 to 2320 MHz and 2345 to 2360 MHz--30 MHz in all--to "wireless services that are consistent with international agreement concerning spectrum allocations." The action was included in the massive, 2000-page Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, which was passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton. The act now is Public Law 104-208.

Shortly after the measure was introduced in the Congress, the ARRL sent messages to House and Senate Commerce Committee and Appropriations staff members to alert them to the League's concerns and the possible impact the bill would have on the amateur allocation at 2300-2310 MHz. The measure also was opposed by the Senate Commerce Committee leadership, which stated that auctions ought to be used only for assignment purposes, not as a means of raising Federal revenues. The newly reallocated spectrum is to be put up for bid no later than next April.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, said it's too early to know the implications for Amateur Radio. "Congressional action directing the reallocation of specific frequency bands is very unusual, and may even be unprecedented," he said. "We have been waiting for the other shoe to drop on 2300-2310 MHz ever since 1994, and to some extent we are still waiting." Sumner expressed the hope that the action might provide the opportunity to

strengthen Amateur Radio's claim to 2300-2305 MHz.

Watch for further details in December QST.

SPECIAL NOTICE: ARRL ELECTION BALLOTS

Attention ARRL members in the Central, Hudson, New England, Northwestern, Roanoke, Rocky Mountain, and Southwestern Divisions. Ballots have been mailed to all ARRL full members in these divisions who were members as of September 10. If you are eligible to receive a ballot but have not received one by October 26, you may request a replacement from the Secretary, ARRL.

Completed ballots must be received by the independent auditor who is overseeing the balloting no later than noon Friday, November 15.

Candidates are: Central Vice Director, Mike Hoshiko, W9CJW, and Howard S.

Huntington, K9KM; Hudson Director, Frank Fallon, N2FF, and Richard Sandell, WK6R; Hudson Vice Director, J. P. Kleinhaus, AA2DU, and Peter J. Malvasi, WB2BYQ; New England Director, Bill Burden, WB1BRE, and Tom Frenaye, K1KI; New England Vice Director, Don Haney, KA1T, and Hal Offutt, K8HVT; Northwestern Director, Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, and Mary Elizabeth Lewis, W7QGP; Roanoke Director, John Kanode, N4MM, and Reed Whitten, AB4W; Rocky Mountain Director, Gunnar Carlson, AE4W,

and Marshall Quiat, AGØX; and Southwestern Director, Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, and Glenn T. Webb, W6FP.

SOLAR ACTIVITY STAYS FLAT--THIS COULD BE THE MINIMUM

Sun watcher Tad Cook, KT7H, of Seattle, Washington, reports today that solar activity is still low, and we've just seen yet another week of no visible sunspots. October 16 was the 34th consecutive day with no sunspots. This surely means that we must still be at the minimum between solar cycles 22 and 23. The current forecast--based upon the mean values of solar cycles 18-22--says that the next cycle won't have the same average sunspot number value as January 1995 (24) until June 1997. The same prediction for solar flux shows that the value for January 1995 (81) is not expected again until December 1997. Remember that these are only guesses, based upon averages for previous solar cycles.

Current forecasts predict some unsettled to active conditions over the next week due to recurrent coronal holes, with a solar flux around 70 for the next few weeks. Unsettled conditions will probably return around November 9, with solar flux dipping below 70 again after November 2.

We've begun to include the A index in our summary of weekly numbers. The A Index is based upon the K Index over a 24-hour period. A new K Index (an expression of geomagnetic

instability) is announced every three hours on WWV, Ft Collins, Colorado, at 0018, 0318, 0618, 0918, 1218, 1518, 1818 and 2118 UTC; and on WWVH, Kekaha, Hawaii, at 0045, 0345, 0645, 0945, 1245, 1545, 1845 and 2145 UTC.

The scale changes very little, so that each point is quite significant. Ideally HF operators would love to see a constant K index of 0 and a solar flux over 300, but it almost never works out that way. During periods of high solar activity, the K Index tends to be higher, because when the Sun is more active it spews out more protons, plasma and flares. This can destabilize Earth's magnetic field, cause the ionosphere and polar regions to absorb radio waves and generally make life miserable for HF ops. Now that we are at the low point between solar cycles 22 and 23, the K Index is usually quite good, around 1 or 2. During the high part of a solar cycle, it tends to be 3 most of the time, 4 when conditions are unstable, and 5 or even higher when there is a geomagnetic storm or even a radio blackout. Each point signifies a big change, so that we almost never observe a K Index of 6 or 7, except when there has been a huge solar flare.

The A Index, based on all the K indices for the day, has a much broader range. The A Index will move much more. As this report is filed, the solar flux is 69, the A Index is 4, and the most recent K Index is 2. A typical condition during higher solar activity is a K Index of 3 and an A Index about

15, or perhaps a K Index of 4 and an A Index of around 20 if conditions are disturbed. During the past week the highest A Index was 19 on October 13, and the highest K index for the day was 5, which is quite disturbed. The average K Index for that day was only 3.7, as the K of 5 only appeared during two three-hour periods, and several other periods had a K of only 2.

Sunspot numbers for October 3 through 9 again were 0 across the board. The 10.7-cm flux was 69.6, 69.4, 68.5, 68.8, 68.3, 67.9 and 67.9, respectively, with a mean of 68.6. Planetary A indices for the same period were 13, 5, 3, 3, 4, 6, and 18, respectively, with a mean of 7.4. Sunspot numbers for October 10 through 16 remained 0 through the period. The 10.7 cm flux was 67.6, 66.4, 67.2, 67.6, 68.6, 69 and 68.6, respectively, with a mean of 67.9. Planetary A indices for the same period were 7, 7, 13, 19, 11, 5, and 8, respectively, with a mean of 10.

Anyone wanting to contact the author of this bulletin may send e-mail to tad@ssc.com or packet mail to KT7H@N7DUO.WA.USA. NOAM.

In Brief:

* FCC toll-free expanded: Residents of 26 states now can reach the FCC's National Call Center by calling 888-CALL-FCC (888-225-5322). Arizona, Washington DC, Iowa, Maryland,

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Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas and Washington (state) are the latest to join the growing list as the Commission phases in the toll-free information service geographically. Plans call for the service to be available in all states by early 1997. The Call Center, located in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, operates between 8 AM and 5:30 PM Eastern Time. States added to the system earlier this year include Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia and Wyoming.

* Call-sign server: Mark Downing, AC6PN, of Costa Mesa, California, invites vanity call sign applicants to use his Internet call-sign server to check for newly issued call sign grants. It's at <http://www.rdatasys.com/~mdowning/fcc/callsign.html>. Among other things, you can choose a list of the previous day's vanity call sign grants. The database also will provide your grid square and even generate a map (may not work with all browsers). It also allows searches by call sign or any combination of name, city, state, or zip code.

* K2BSA/1 JOTA operation: The Burlington (Vermont) Amateur Radio Club is providing equipment and operators for K2BSA/1 during the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) this weekend (see QST, Oct 96, p 49). K2BSA/1 will be operate from the Vergennes, Vermont, camporee site. QSL via KD1R, 943 Osgood

Hill Rd, Westford, VT 05494.-- Ralph Stetson, KD1R

* Young hams up: For the month of September, FCC statistics show that new licensees who are age 21 or younger, increased by 538 over the month of August.

* ZS5AKV reappointed: The Administrative Council of the International Amateur Radio Union has reappointed Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, as the IARU satellite adviser for another one-year term. ZS5AKV also is looking for input from the satellite community on how best to focus on amateur satellites and the fraternity's contribution to scientific development and engineering. E-mail your ideas to zs5akv@amsat.org.--AMSAT News Service

* DOVE-OSCAR 17 update: Jim White, WD0E, reports that the analog telemetry data being sent by the DOVE-OSCAR-17 satellite is mostly inaccurate. The focus of the current test software that is transmitting this data is to diagnose what appears to be a hardware that is hindering the execution of the regular operating software on the satellite. Work continues in getting DOVE back on-line.--SpaceNews

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Visit the ARRL Web page at <http://www.arrl.org>.

The purpose of The ARRL Letter is to provide the essential news of interest to active, organizationally minded radio amateurs faster than it can be disseminated by our official journal, QST. We strive to be fast, accurate and readable in our reporting.

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This space could have (should have?) been yours!!



Remember, this is **our** newsletter! Contact the editor with your suggestions!

NOTICE TO ALL VISITORS

WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS IS AN AMATEUR RADIO STATION LICENSED AS
BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON, DC.
BEFORE YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS, HERE ARE THE ANSWERS:

1. The total cost of this equipment cannot be discussed here as it creates marital conflicts.
2. No, we cannot send a message to your brother in Hong Kong. We suggest you call Western Union.
3. This is strictly a hobby; we do not have the facilities or the time to fool around with TV sets, radios, or hi-fi. We suggest that you see a serviceman.
4. Yes, the antenna in the backyard is essential to the operation of the equipment.
5. The farthest station we have contacted has been in the Ubangiland.
6. The cards on the wall are called QSL cards. They are confirmation of contacts made with other stations.
7. It is technically impossible for this station's equipment to interfere with television reception, telephones or stereo systems. Any interference problems of that nature are caused by design flaws in the home-entertainment devices themselves.
8. An Amateur Radio station may only be operated by a highly qualified, technically skilled electronics expert. It takes dedication, training and intelligence to reach the level of competence that justifies one to be license by the United States Federal Government. Therefore, it is not considered inappropriate to show proper awe, respect and general obsequiousness when I discuss my hobby or operate the controls.

FURTHERMORE...

IF YOU ARE GRANTED THE EXTREME HONOR OF BEING INVITED TO SPEAK INTO THE
MICROPHONE, PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING RULES:

1. Speak in a low and soothing tone.
2. Do not disagree with me in any manner.
3. Say no bad words and tell no off-color jokes.
4. It is customary for guests to make complimentary remarks about this station and its licensed operator when talking to other hams on the air.

DO NOT TOUCH ANYTHING, TURN ANY KNOBS, SIT ON EQUIPMENT, ETC. I HAVE
LOST SEVERAL VISITORS BY ELECTROCUTION IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS.

Thank you for your cooperation

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Tel: (719) 636-1661
Fax: (719) 636-1663**Membership Application - Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.**

P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80935

Date: _____ New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Call _____ License Class _____ Telephone _____

Email Address _____

Are you an ARRL member? Yes ☐ No ☐**One year membership rates. (Year starts with the month you receive your first issue.)**Full Member \$15.00 ☐ Family Membership (same address) \$18.00 ☐Over 65 \$12.00 ☐ Family Membership (both over 65) \$12.00 ☐Associate (outside El Paso or Teller Co.) \$12.00 ☐ Newsletter only \$12.00 ☐

Additional Names: _____ Call _____ Class _____

Please Note: You must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer
for both new members as well as renewals. Thank you. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY!